

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: 9-21-05Division: Growth Management

Bulk Item: Yes X No       

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Contact Person: Matt Van Ess

**AGENDA ITEM WORDING:**

Approval of grant funding from Florida Department of Environmental Protection for contracted removal of Australian Pines on Monroe County conservation lands.

**ITEM BACKGROUND:**

Grant funding from Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Bureau of Invasive Plant Management) to remove Australian Pine trees from County owned lands. Project will use qualified contractors to work in neighborhoods and in areas near roads and power lines where removal and treatment can not be done by the Land Steward. Oversight and coordination of all work will be done by the Land Steward. County in kind match will be provided through time from the Land Steward to support the project.

**PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOCC ACTION:**

NA

**CONTRACT/AGREEMENT CHANGES:**

NA

**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

## Approval

**TOTAL COST: \$30,000**

**BUDGETED:** Yes X No

**COST TO COUNTY:** \$0

**SOURCE OF FUNDS:** FDEP

REVENUE PRODUCING: Yes \_\_\_ No X AMOUNT PER MONTH \_\_\_ Year \_\_\_

**APPROVED BY:** County Atty X OMB/Purchasing X Risk Management X

**DIVISION DIRECTOR APPROVAL:**

Timothy J. McGarry, AICP

**DOCUMENTATION:** Included X Not Required

**DISPOSITION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AGENDA ITEM #**

**MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**CONTRACT SUMMARY**

Contract with: FDEP Contract #PL 029  
 Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contract Purpose/Description:  
Contracted Removal of Australian Pines on Monroe County Conservation Lands

Contract Manager: Matt Van Ess 2511 Growth Management/ #11  
 (Name) (Ext.) (Department/Stop #)

for BOCC meeting on Sept. 21, 2005 Agenda Deadline: September 6, 2005

**CONTRACT COSTS**

Total Dollar Value of Contract: \$ 30,000 Current Year Portion: \$ 0  
 Budgeted? Yes ☒ No ☐ Account Codes: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grant: \$ 30,000 \_\_\_\_\_  
 County Match: \$ 10,650 / InKind \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDITIONAL COSTS**

Estimated Ongoing Costs: \$ \_\_\_\_\_/yr For: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Not included in dollar value above) (eg. maintenance, utilities, janitorial, salaries, etc.)

**CONTRACT REVIEW**

	Date In	Changes Needed	Reviewer	Date Out
Division Director	<u>8-31-05</u>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>9-31-05</u>
Risk Management	<u>8-22-05</u>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>8-22-05</u>
O.M.B./Purchasing	<u>8-15-05</u>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>8-18-05</u>
County Attorney	<u>8/11/05</u>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>8/11/05</u>

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**TASK ASSIGNMENT NOTIFICATION FORM**  
**DEP CONTRACT NO. PL029**

**Task Assignment Number:** FK-061

**Contractor Name:** Monroe County

**DEP Contract Manager/Telephone:** Greg Jubinsky (850) 245-2809

**Project Title:** Monroe County Australian Pine Removal

**Date:** July 26, 2005

**Contractor's Contract Manager/Tel:** Matt Van Ess (305) 852-2511

**DEP Site Manager/Telephone:** Jackie Smith (561) 722-2479

**Task Description and Payment Schedule:** Exhibit 1 describes the scope of work for this project. The Contractor is not authorized to perform work on any additional sites until such time as the DEP and the Contractor have fully executed a Change Order for said additional work. Any work performed by the Contractor contrary to this Task Assignment shall be at the Contractor's expense. The Contractor is authorized to subcontract this project. **This task will reimburse for subcontractor costs for labor or mechanical control operations as well as for costs associated with herbicide operations of in house crews. Subcontractors and in house crews will use the attached Daily Progress Report form for all control operations.**

**Deliverables:** This Task is for reimbursement for labor cost for exotic plant control activities, as describes in Exhibit 1, on public conservation lands in Monroe County. Contractor shall achieve 95% control or greater on treated exotics. All requests for reimbursement will be submitted with Daily Progress Reports for all labor and equipment costs and copies of invoices for herbicide purchases for this project.

**Due Date:** June 15, 2006

**Cost Reimbursement Task Assignment (Not-to-Exceed) Amount:** \$30,000.00

**Invoicing Frequency:** Midway and completion

**Funding Information:**

Org Code	EO	Fund/FID	Category	YR	Obj Code	CSFA No.	Rec Type	Activ Code	Grant No.	Module	Project No.	Amount
3710-2800-222	Q7		102334	05-06	139904						29FK061	\$30,000.00

**MONROE COUNTY**

Contract Manager:  
(or designee)

Date:

Contract Manager:

Date:

MONROE COUNTY ATTORNEY

APPROVED AS TO FORM

SUZANNE A. HUTTON

ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY

Date:

8/11/05

**FL DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Contract Manager:

Date:

Cost Center:

Date:

Bureau Chief:

Date:

Division of State lands:

N/A

Date:

cc: Gwenn Godfrey, Contracts Office (MS93)  
Contracts Disbursements Section (MS78) - 2 Copies

## **TASK ASSIGNMENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CONTRACTOR:**

1. Upon full execution of the Task Assignment, the Contractor will coordinate with the DEP Site Manager to establish a mutually agreeable work schedule.
2. A Ground Crew Supervisor, employed by the Contractor, will be present at all times when work on the site is underway;
3. Ground Crew Supervisors will be responsible for all control activities and safety on project sites. The Ground Crew Supervisor will assure contract crews are knowledgeable of, and remain within property and treatment boundaries. Every effort shall be made by the Contractor to avoid damage to native vegetation and wildlife;
4. Ground Crew Supervisors will be pesticide applicators possessing current certification by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) in the Forestry or Right-of-Way categories. A copy of each supervisor's FDACS certification will be provided to the DEP Site Manager prior to initiation of on-site supervisory duties;
5. The Ground Crew Supervisor may supervise a maximum of eight (8) field employees at any given time, unless otherwise noted in the Task Assignment;
6. The Ground Crew Supervisor shall be responsible for the collection, recording, and timely submission of all data and reports required. At weekly intervals and at the completion of initial treatments and site reassessment, a complete report will be submitted to the Site Manager detailing sites treated, number and size of plants killed, and type of treatment used. This data will be recorded on the DEP "Daily Progress Report Form".
7. The Contractor will strictly adhere to all herbicide label application, precautionary, and safety statements;
8. All control efforts (except cogon grass treatment) shall be at least 95% effective in preventing re-sprout of treated target vegetation. If 95% kill rate is not achieved for any area of the project after two months following project completion, one additional thorough treatment of the plant species listed under "Project Goals" in the project area will be the responsibility of the Contractor at no cost to the DEP;
9. Cogon grass treatments shall be 100% effective in killing above ground portions (top kill) of target vegetation. If 100% top kill rate is not achieved for any area of the project after 30 days following project completion, one additional thorough treatment of the plant species listed under "Project Goals" in the project area will be the responsibility of the Contractor at no cost to the DEP;
10. The Contractor shall forward an original invoice along with all corresponding Daily Progress Report Forms, completed and approved, to the Bureau of Invasive Plant Management, 3915 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 710, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000 within ten (10) working days of work completion;

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEP SITE MANAGER:**

1. The Site Manager reserves the right to inspect, at any time, the Contractor's procedure, spray system(s), spray solution(s), and other ancillary equipment, and to approve operating personnel. Inspection, however, will not relieve the Contractor of any obligations or responsibilities nor will it transfer any liability to the lands listed under "Project Location.";
2. No additional work can be added to this Task Assignment without a fully executed Change Order. Additional work includes additional treatment areas or change in treatment methodology.
3. The site management agency authorizes Bureau of Invasive Plant Management staff to approve invoice payments of all funds encumbered under this Task Assignment. Payment will be approved only for that work approved by the Site Manager. A copy of the approved invoice will be forwarded to the site management agency.

Exhibit 1

**Project Title:** Australian Pine Removal,  
Monroe County Owned Conservation Lands

**Working Group:** Florida Keys Invasive Exotic Plant Working Group

**Site Manager:** Matt Van Ess  
Monroe County Land Steward  
Growth Management Division  
2798 Overseas Highway  
Marathon, Florida 33050-2227  
phone: (305) 852-2511  
cell: (305) 304-4442  
email: vaness-matt@monroecounty-fl.gov

**Method of Control:** Sub contract / Cost reimbursement

**Project Goals:** The project goal is the eradication of non-native invasive Australian pine (I, II - *Casuarina* spp.), on publicly-owned conservation lands in unincorporated Monroe County. This project will work cooperatively with the Land Steward and the Monroe County Exotic Plant Control Technicians but will utilize DEP approved contractors to remove Australian pine trees in neighborhoods in close proximity to power lines, public roads, and houses, where for public safety reasons treatment of trees in place by the Land Steward and Technicians is not feasible.

**Project Location:** Monroe County, as either the Board of County Commissioners or the Monroe County Land Authority, owns scattered conservation lands throughout the Florida Keys. Sites listed below (each site is several individual parcels) on eleven keys have been selected for eradication of non-native Australian pine. Total acreage to be treated is approximately 5 acres. For example, the County owns 6 acres on the middle island of Duck Key of which 2 acres are completely infested with Australian pine. All the sites selected are in neighborhood areas and are on public lands that Monroe County intends to manage in perpetuity for growth management, conservation, and natural resource protection.

The properties selected for management under this proposal are a subset of all the conservation lands owned by Monroe County. Approximately 5 acres proposed for Australian pine eradication for this project encompass the range of major upland habitats within the Florida Keys. Represented in these conservation lands are coastal beaches, buttonwood associations, rockland and maritime hammocks, and pine rockland. These areas provide habitat and resources for a myriad of wildlife, resident and migratory birds, and endemic plant species. The non-native plants that invade these areas decrease habitat value and lower biodiversity. Just a few of the state and federally listed endangered and threatened species of animals and plants that utilize these habitats include: green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*), eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*), key mud turtle

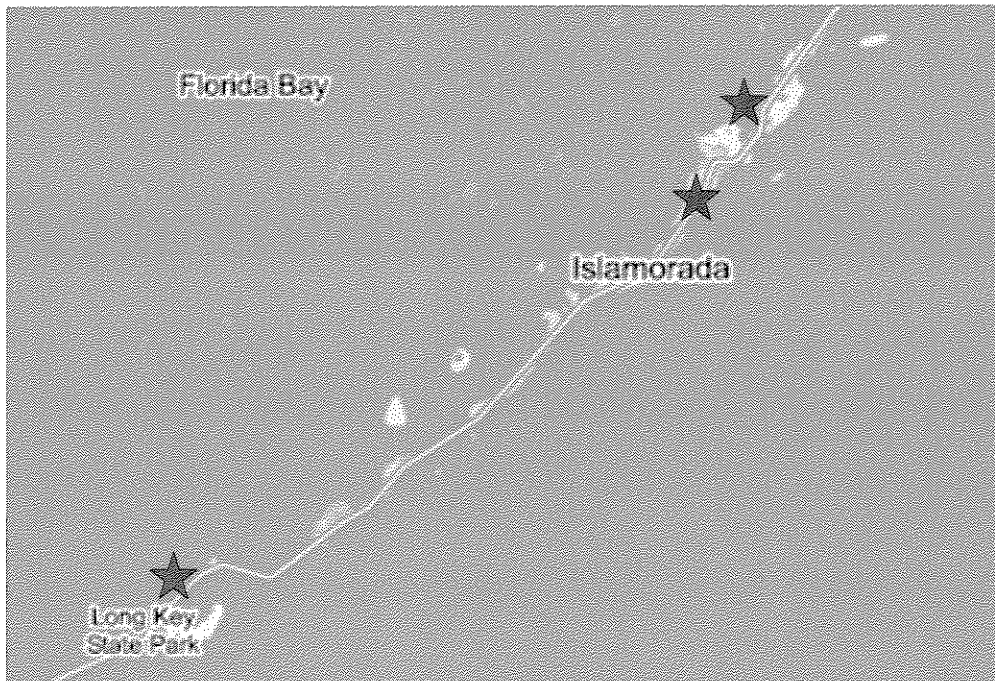
## Exhibit 1

(*Kinosternon baurii*), piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*), white-crowned pigeon (*Columba leucocephala*), Key Largo cotton mouse (*Peromyscus gossypinus allapaticola*), Lower Keys rabbit (*Sylvilagus palustris hefneri*), Key deer (*Odocoileus virginianus clavium*), Blodgett's wild mercury (*Argythamnia blodgettii*), locustberry (*Byrsonima lucida*), silver palm (*Coccothrinax argentata*), and Garber's spurge (*Chamaesyce garberi*).

### Australian Pine Sites

There are three sites in the Upper Keys:

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| ▪ Hammer Point Subdivision<br>(along road edge and power lines)           | Key Largo      |
| ▪ Plantation Key median parcels<br>(several parcels in median near roads) | Plantation Key |
| ▪ Long Key MM 69.5<br>(ocean side property along highway)                 | Long Key       |



There are three sites in the Middle Keys:

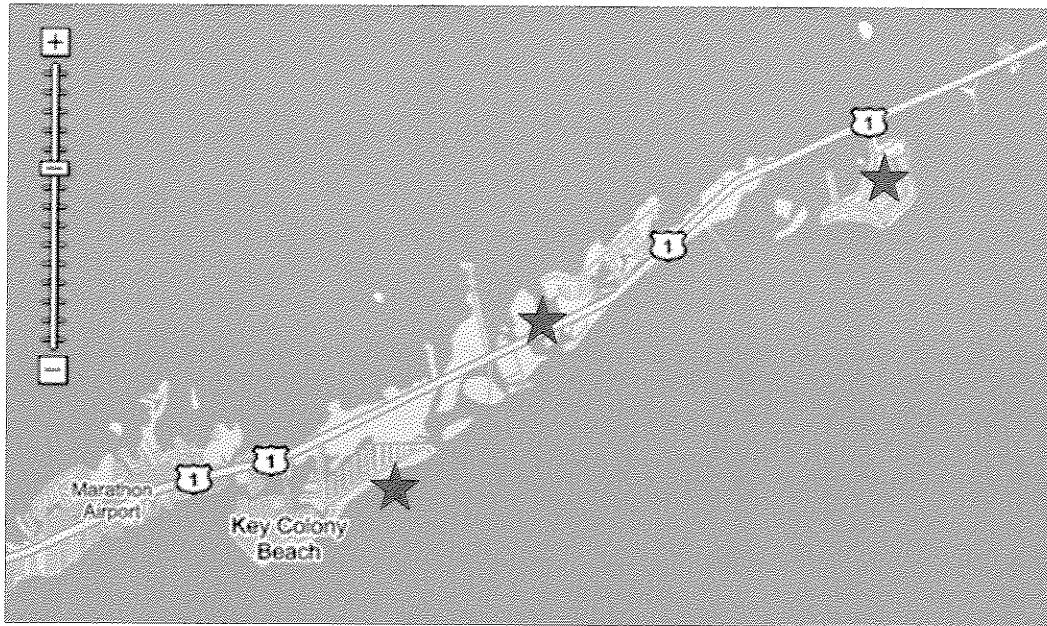
- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| ▪ Middle island Duck Key<br>(near power lines and road in neighborhood) | Duck Key   |
| ▪ Grassy Key  | Grassy Key |

## Exhibit 1

(edge of roads on County owned parcels)

- Coco Plum Beach

Fat Deer Key



There are 5 sites in the lower keys:

- Pine Channel, Long Beach, Eden Pines – neighborhoods (parcels near houses)      Big Pine Key
- Windward Beach Estates (few large trees, smaller trees will be treated in place by techs)      Little Torch Key
- Ramrod Shores (few large trees, smaller trees will be treated in place by techs)      Ramrod Key
- Cutthroat Harbor (few large trees, smaller trees will be treated in place by techs)      Cudjoe Key
- Sugarloaf Acres (trees adjacent to road)      Sugarloaf



Exhibit 1



Duck Key Australian pines along road.



## Exhibit 1

**Project Description:** This project will sub contract a DEP approved contractor to treat non-native invasive Australian pine stands and individual trees on Monroe County conservation lands. Trees will be removed and chipped on site and stump treated with herbicide. The duration of the project is scheduled for from 1 July 2005 to 1 June 2006. However, it is envisioned that most of the work will occur for eight months from October to June based on weather. The contractor will remove Australian pines from designated conservation lands under the direction of the Monroe County Land Steward and in cooperation with the Exotic Plant Control Technicians.

The preliminary list of sites above is in need of treatment. Other sites may be discussed and added based on feedback from the Land Steward and the Exotic Plant Control Technicians. As project in kind match, Monroe County Public Works staff will remove large trunk pieces that are not feasible to be chipped and will coordinate pine mulch removal. Stump pieces too large to chip will be disposed of at the land fill or other location.

**Proposed Budget:** The proposed budget for the project is as follows:

**Salaries:**

\$30,000 5 acres of pine removal at @ \$6,000.00 per acre

**In Kind Matches:**

PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

- \$2,650 (2 hours per week for 32 weeks @ \$28.73 hourly rate plus approximately 44% in benefits)

PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT AND DUMP FEES

- \$8,000

Total In Kind Match: \$ 10,650 (33% In Kind Match)

**PROJECT TOTAL: \$ 40,650**

**Work Specifications:** Work performance will consist of contractor furnishing all labor, herbicides, diluents, small equipment, transportation, spray equipment, etc. and all operations necessary to control the Australian pines as described in "Project Goals". Monroe County Division of Public Works will provide in-kind match by providing heavy equipment (bucket truck, dump truck, etc.) as required to remove and dispose of large stump pieces and to coordinate pine mulch removal. Other in kind match will be provided by the Land Steward and County administrative staff.

Daily work logs recording date, name of site, and hours of work along with other data will be maintained by the Land Steward. Monroe County will submit monthly invoices

## Exhibit 1

to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), Bureau of Invasive Plants, for subcontract reimbursement for activities based on the work logs.

For this project only Australian pines, which for safety reasons can not be treated in place, will be removed and stump treated according to developed effective control techniques. Pine mulch will be chipped on site and piled in an upland location and where hammock impact will be minimal. Decisions regarding specific plant treatment methods on each site will be approved by the Land Steward. Areas from which pines are removed are expected to mostly revegetate naturally. No artificial seeding or revegetation with natives is anticipated to be required under this project. However, severely degraded sites (such as sites with a thick mat of acidic pine needles) and with distant native seed sources will be followed up with site preparation and planting of natives with funding from Monroe County's Environmental Land Management and Restoration Fund. Every effort shall be made by the contractor to avoid damaging native vegetation or disturbing wildlife.

## Exhibit 1

**Data Collection:** The Land Steward will be responsible for overseeing contractors and conducting field work and keeping daily work logs. Work logs will record date, morning and afternoon weather conditions, name of site, specific location on site, hours of work, species treated, estimates of species abundance in each work location, treatment method, herbicide, concentration, and amount applied. Logs will be used for final report preparation and will be monitored by entering spatial information with attributes into a GIS database to track management activities on all county-owned conservation lands.

**Public Education/Outreach:** Since this project will largely be taking place in neighborhoods on Monroe County conservation lands public outreach for neighbors becomes critical. The Land Steward will coordinate discussions with neighbors and neighborhood associations prior to contractor work and will explain the purpose and importance of the work and discuss Green Sweep. The TNC Green Sweep program has been very effective in fostering awareness of the invasive exotic plant problem in the Florida Keys, and recruiting volunteers to help in eradication efforts. The Monroe County Land Steward will work with the Green Sweep program's coordinator during this project for continued public education and recruitment of adjacent private landowners to allow volunteer exotic plant eradication efforts on their property.

**Project Time Frame:** The project will entail removal of exotic Australian pine trees on Monroe County conservation lands, beginning as soon as funding is available. The project will conclude on approximately 1 June 2006, with the Monroe County Land Steward providing a comprehensive final report to accompany the final invoice for cost reimbursement to the FDEP Bureau of Invasive Plants by 15 June 2006.